Final orders should be passed within six months on the representations made at the Assembly and the decisions should be duly published. Before the meeting of the next session, a statement should be published showing the subjects which were not disposed of, with reasons for the delay.

Members should be given the right to interpellate Government and to move and discuss resolutions on matters of general public interest.

191. Constitutional reforms.

MR. K. GEORGE JOSEPH (*Minachil taluk, Group I*) said that it was almost certain that the system of Government in British India would undergo a change in one or two years. Responsible Government would be introduced in the provinces by an Act of Parliament. Travancore would then have to come into line with the British Indian provinces.

The member then suggested that the following constitutional changes might be introduced with advantage to the people and Government. The electorate should be so widened as to include the entire adult population. The introduction of universal franchise would awaken the dormant political consciousness of the masses. Taxation and legislation should rest solely with the representatives of the people. Members of the Government should be chosen by the Legislature and should vacate office on a vote of no-confidence.

192 Responsible Government.

MR. T. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Trivandrum taluk, Group I*) said that the administration of Travancore compared very favourably with that of any other Indian State. In Travancore, civic rights were respected and the rule of law was an accomplished fact. But the representatives of the people were seldom able to shape the policy of Government.

Some Indian Rulers evinced an inclination to prefer foreigners to their own subjects to fill the higher appointments. Persons who had no stake in the country were not likely to take the people along with them. In Travancore, many a foreign Dewan had genuine love towards the State and its people. But the vast majority of them were not so. A son of the soil with ordinary ability would be able to conduct the administration with success.

The Legislative Council criticised Government. But criticism could be healthy and constructive only when the privilege was purified by responsibility. Responsible Government, or the subordination of the executive to the legislature, was the country's goal. The goal should be reached speedily.

An Executive Council was long overdue. But there was no use of an Executive Council, unless the members thereof were selected from among the non-officials also. If each member of the Council would